

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Wedge, at 7:14 PM. The following members were present:

Ms. Sylvia Wedge, Chair
Mr. Michael Buddemeyer

Mr. Richard Carpender
Mrs. Terri Cortvriend
Mr. Jamie Heaney

Mrs. Marjorie Levesque
Mr. Douglas Wilkey

Absent: Marissa Mello

Also Present: Dr. Lusi, Asst. Supt. Jermain, Patti Cofield, Rick Updegrave

ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA

Ms. Wedge opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. She welcomed the newly-elected members of the Committee.

1. **Swearing-in Ceremony.** Mr. Michael Buddemeyer, Mr. Richard Carpender, Mr. Jamie Heaney, and Mrs. Levesque, were sworn in by Senator Charles Levesque.

Mr. Wilkey, Clerk, took over the meeting.

- a) **Election of Chairman:** Mrs. Levesque nominated Ms. Sylvia Wedge as Chair. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. Mr. Buddemeyer nominated Mr. Jamie Heaney as Chair. There was no second. The nomination of Ms. Wedge passed 4-3. Mr. Buddemeyer, Mr. Heaney, and Mr. Wilkey were opposed. The nomination of Mr. Heaney failed 3-4. Mr. Carpender, Mrs. Cortvriend, Mrs. Levesque, and Ms. Wedge were opposed. The new Chair is Ms. Sylvia Wedge.

Ms. Wedge, Chair, took over the meeting.

- b) **Election of Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. Levesque nominated Mr. Richard Carpender as Vice Chair. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. Mr. Heaney nominated Mr. Douglas Wilkey as Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Buddemeyer. The nomination of Mr. Carpender passed 4-3. Mr. Buddemeyer, Mr. Heaney, and Mr. Wilkey were opposed. The nomination of Mr. Wilkey as Vice Chair failed 3-4. Mr. Carpender, Mrs. Cortvriend, Mrs. Levesque, and Ms. Wedge were opposed. The new vice chairman is Mr. Richard Carpender.
- c) **Appointment of Clerk:** Ms. Wedge appointed Mrs. Terri Cortvriend as Clerk.
- d) **Establishment of Meeting Date and Time:** The Committee agreed to continue meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, as stated in the By-Laws.
- e) **Appointment of Legal Counsel:** Mr. Wilkey made a motion that Attorney Richard Updegrave be appointed legal counsel. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. So voted 7-0. Mr. Heaney suggested advertising for the position. Ms. Wedge stated that the position was

advertised for two years ago, and Attorney Updegrave's proposal came in \$20,000 lower than the competition. Mr. Buddemeyer asked that legal counsel attend our meetings. Ms. Wedge stated that Attorney Updegrave is present for legal matters.

- f) **Schedule Retreat:** Dr. Lusi stated that a retreat would be helpful for the Committee for the purpose of having a legal and ethics review; review of By-Laws; and establishment of norms and expectations. She anticipates the retreat will last six hours. She suggested either meeting on a Saturday or having two evening meetings. She asked Mrs. Cofield to send out a listing of potential dates to the Committee.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** No report.
- 2. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Lusi welcomed the new Committee members. She thanked and congratulated Mike Medeiros, Chair of the PHS Health and Physical Education Department, for applying for and receiving a \$25,000 grant from the Van Beuren Charitable Foundation for the purchase of fitness equipment for a fitness/wellness center in our new gymnasium. She also thanked Nancy Fitzgerald, Patti McCarthy, and Mike Lunney, who assisted in making the application.

Regarding the NEASC report, Dr. Lusi reported that Mr. Littlefield received a letter last week regarding the accreditation status of PHS. The letter is very complimentary of the school's commitment to mission and expectations, its learning environment, and the learning opportunities provided to students, and also of the school's leadership. However, the letter states that the Commission voted to place the school on warning status for the Standard on Community Resources for Learning. Consequently, the School Department needs to submit a Special Progress Report by April 1, 2007. Dr. Lusi stated that much of what the letter says we need to address has already been done. However, NEASC is asking that we submit the proposed FY'08 budget and provide comparative figures for FY'07 and FY'08 for the following line items: instructional materials and supplies; additional staffing positions in the areas of student support services and technology support; print and non-print collections in the media center; maintenance service; and computers.

- a) **Teaching and Learning:** Assistant Superintendent Jermain reported that professional development is continuing throughout the schools. Level 3 lab classroom training will take place tomorrow, and math training will be held on Wednesday for Grades 3 and 4, with the focus on algebra. Additional math training will be ongoing next week.
- b) **Finance and Operations:** Will be addressed on the Business Agenda.
- c) **High School Liaison,** Marissa Mello: Absent.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Cortvriend to accept the minutes of the meeting held November 14, 2006. Seconded by Mrs. Levesque. So voted 4-0-3. Mr. Carpender abstained due to his absence from that meeting. Mr. Buddemeyer and Mr. Heaney abstained because they had not been sworn in as Committee members at the time of that meeting.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) **Approval of Requests for Permission to Home School.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee approves the requests to provide home schooling for the 2006-07 school year for student 13-11/06, as listed in the confidential memo dated November 16, 2006, in accordance with the provisions of R.I. Law 16-19-2."
- b) **Request for Maternity Leave of Absence:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee approves the requests for maternity leave in accordance with the backup information."
- c) **Coaching Appt. – PHS.** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution, "that the Committee approves the coaching appointments at Portsmouth High School for the 2006 winter season, as presented."

A motion was made by Mr. Carpender and seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. So voted 7-0. Dr. Lusi announced the following coaching appointments: Margaret Prior, Assistant Girls Basketball Coach; Oscar Chilabato, Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach.

5. **BUSINESS AGENDA**

- a) **Discussion/Action - FY-07 Budget.** Mr. Carpender made a motion to authorize the Superintendent and The Law Offices of Stephen M. Robinson to bring an action in the Superior Court for additional funds to complete the 2007 school year, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 16-2-21.4. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. Much discussion took place, and several citizens remarked on the budget situation. The motion passed 4-3. Mr. Buddemeyer, Mr. Heaney, and Mr. Wilkey were opposed.
- b) **Review/Approval – October Financial Statements.** Mr. Carpender made a motion to approve the October Financial Statements as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. So voted 7-0.
- c) **Approval of 2006-07 Budget Adjustments.** Mr. Carpender made a motion to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. So voted 4-3. Mr. Buddemeyer, Mr. Heaney, and Mr. Wilkey were opposed.

6. **SUBCOMMITTEE AGENDA**

- a) **Policy:** No report.
- b) **Finance:** See above.
- c) **Prudence Island School Working Committee:** Mr. Carpender stated that a report will be given to the full Committee at the December 12th meeting.
- d) **Gymnasium Construction Oversight Committee (GCOC):** No report.
- e) **Fundraising:** No report.

A motion was made by Mr. Carpender to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Cortvriend. So voted 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patti Cofield
Recording Secretary for

Terri Cortvriend, Clerk